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Addresses. Benewals, etc.—Addresses will be changed as often as desired, but each subscriber should in every case give the old as well as the new

every section in regard to Grand Army, Sons of Veterans, Pension, and Milliary matters, and letters to the Editor will always receive prompt attention. Write on ONE SIDE of the paper only. We do not ications or manuscripts unless they are accompanied by a request to that effect and the necessary postage, and under no circumstances gua antee their publication at any special date.

THE NATIONAL TP'BUNE, Washington, D. C.

ENTERED AT WASHINGTON FOSTOFFICE AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER. JOHN MCELROY, ROBERT W. SHOPPELL, EYRON ANDREWS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., DEC 7, 1899.

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GUESSING

find a long list of books there that you can have for the asking when you send your subscription to the paper, provided you send it in soon; and, furthermore, you will find some interesting reading matter in our \$500 cash guessing contest. It will be ebserved that this \$500 is to be given away to our club-raisers as an additional premium after they have received all other premiums under our various offers, and the money will be distributed according to the degree of nearness to which they guess the receipts of the Treasury for Jan. 31 next.

It will also be seen that each one can have as many guesses as he sends in subscribers. In this contest one person has the same chance as another. A person living in the most remote part of the country can tell just as nearly what the Treasury receipts will be for a given day as the Secretary of the Treasury himself. The other means of support than her daily labor receipts now are running very heavy, as is shown by the official publication at the close of each day's business, and Treasury as the result of her daily labor exceeds close of each day's business, and Treasury officials anticipate that they will continue to increase rather than diminish during January, although that is, of course, only their judgment.

From time to time we shall publish the total receipts from various days, in order to give an idea of what the amount may be expected to be. For example, on Monday of last week the total receipts were \$3,354,-097; Tuesday, \$1,095.211; Wednesday, \$2,900,855; Friday, \$2,852,451; Saturday, \$1,518,524

The receipts for the next day, Friday, were correspondingly heavy. It will also be noticed that Tuesday's receipts are usually the lightest of the week, and Monday's under ordinary circumstances, are the heaviest.

The day of the week upon which the gues will be made is Wednesday, Jan. 31, next, and will therefore be a mid-week day and about an average for the week.

Do not forget that time will pass ver rapidly during the holiday season, and that no opportunity should be neglected to send in a subscriber whenever the chance occurs, to secure as many chances to file guesses as possible. A complete record is kept of all the subscribers sent in, which are placed to the credit of the person sending them. Toward the end of January each person should send in as many guesses as he has secured subscribers during December and January.

ACTIVALDO is hiding in the mountains the by-roads and paths of the country, and the Census Bureau. with which the natives must be very faupon the Filipinos of his capture would the District of Columbia. not be in a great degree offset by the em-

OUR troops in Luzon continue to be that the effect of taking towns and then abandoning them to the enemy was very beneficial, since then the people got thoroughly acquainted with the murderous and rascally character of their would-be rulers. Yet there is probably a good deal in this, and the men and women who suffered from Aguinaldo's horde will remember it strongly when somebody else proposes a rebellion.

baque, Iowa, presented Speaker Hender- Bureaus. Much more than any other son with a beautiful floral gavel, and his Secretary he must leave the management comrades of Hyde Post, G.A.R., of Du- of the Bureaus to them, and be guided buque, sent him a basket of flowers.

GEN. HARRISON says, with his accustomed frankness, that it will be a National shame to allow a man with plural wives to sit in the House of Representatives.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE. The President's Message, sent to Con--is a very voluminous document, making 16 columns of small type.

less prosperity, recites that the exports have been more than \$1,000,000,000 in excess of review of our satisfactory foreign relations. that our pledge to "free Cuba" must be made largely formal, and a matter of official rou-'a reality, not a name; a perfect entity, not time a hasty experiment, bearing within itself the elements of failure. Our mission, to accomplish which we took up the wager of battle, is not to be fulfilled by turning adrift any loosely framed Commonwealth to weaker States, whose natural wealth and abundant resources are offset by the incongruities of their political organization. and the recurring occasions for internal rivalries to sap their strength and dissipate

cipal elections for the island. The paragraph in regard to pensions is listinctly disappointing. It reads as fol-

These include the pensioners of the Army and Navy in all our wars. The number added to the rolls during the year was Do not lose the Supplement.

Examine it carefully, because you will

40.991. The number dropped by reason of death, remarriage, minors by legal limitation, failure to claim within three years, and other causes, was 43,186, and the num-ber of claims disallowed was 107,919. Durng the year 89,054 pension certificates were of which 37,077 were for new or original pensions. The amount disbursed for army and navy pensions during the year was \$138,355,052.95, which was \$1,-651,461.61 less than the sum of the appro

The Grand Army of the Republic at its recent National Encampment held in Phila-delphia has brought to my attention and to that of the Congress the wisdom and justice of a modification of the third section of the act of June 27, 1890, which provides pensions for the widows of officers and enlisted men who served 90 days or more during the war of the rebellion and were honorably discharged, provided that such widows are without other means of support than their daily labor and were married to the soldier, sailor, or marine on account of whose service they claim pen-sion prior to the date of the act.

The present holding of the Department is that if the widow's income aside from her daily labor does not exceed in amount what her pension would be, to wit, \$96 per annum, she would be deemed to be without as the result of ner daily labor exceeds \$96, she would not be pensionable under the act. I am advised by the Commis-sioner of Pensions that the amount of the income allowed before title to pension would be barred has varied widely under ifferent administrations of the Pension Office, as well as during different periods of the same administration, and has been the ause of just complaint and criticism.

With the approval of the Secretary of the Interior the Commissioner of Pensions emmends that, in order to make the 1.518.524.

It will be seen that there are no receipts Congress shall so amend the act as to permit the Pension Office to grant pensionable for Thursday, because Thanksgiving Day, status to widows under the terms of the third section of the act of June 27, 1890, the "Departmental rulings" are usually the 30th of November, was a National whose income aside from the proceeds of holiday and the Treasury was closed. whose income aside from the proceeds of formulated by the Commissioner of Pendally and the Treasury was closed. Now comes Secretary Hitchcock,

Two-and-a-half columns are devoted to the recital of the history of affairs in the Philippines, and the President concludes with the assertion that the islands "are ours by every title of law and equity," and must remain so. He denounces a protectorate. and leaves it to Congress to decide what the form of Government shall be. Until then he shall use the army and navy to uphold our sovereignty over every part, and shall carry forward the beneficent work of reconstruction in every way, open the churches and schools, set the courts in operation, and foster industry, trade and

THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF

The Department of the Interior is the nost heterogeneous of all the eight great Executive Departments. It is made up of eight great Bureaus, all having their funcwhere starvation must soon compel his sur- tions absolutely diverse from and unrelated render, if he is not actually found and to one another. These Bureaus are: The captured by our active cavalry, or can General Land Office, Patent Office, Bureau not manage to sneak off to some scaport, of Pensions, Office of Indian Affairs, Office It will be strange if he can not do this. Our of Education, Office of Commissioner of men must naturally be unacquainted with | Railroads, Office of the Geological Survey,

Besides these the Secretary of the Inmiliar. It will be phenomenal good man- terior has jurisdiction over the Hot Springs agement and good luck if Gen. Young sue- Reservation in Arkansas, the Yellowceels in getting hold of him. As we have stone, Yosemite, Sequoia, and Gen. Grant said before, we hope for the sake of Gen. Parks, the distribution of appropriations Young and his splendid men that they for agricultural and mechanical colleges in will capture Aguinaldo. Their magni- the various States and Territories, the ficent chase deserves that reward. On custody and distribution of certain public the other hand, as a matter of public policy, documents, and the supervision of certain is a question whether the moral effect hospitals and eleemosynary institutions in

It will be seen at a glance that no man barrassment as to what to do with him, in the two and a half years which are the waking it possibly better to simply run him average term of a member of the Cabinet, out of the country, and have him afraid can possibly hope to master any but the smallest portion of the vast and intricate subjects under his control. The proper received with joyful relief wherever they go. comprehension of the business of any one Gen. Otis makes the rather singular plea of the eight great Bureaus is a study which would engross the ablest mind for a lifetime, and it is manifestly impossible that a Secretary of the Interior shall be at one and the same time a well-equipped land lawyer, patent solicitor, pension attorney Indian expert, railroad manager, public educator, and census statistician.

The most that he can do, and all that is expected of him is that he will indicate the general policy of the Administration, and have general supervision over the experts THE Union Veterans' Union of Du- who are appointed to administer the several wholly by their advice and recommendations. He can not have any but the most general ideas as to details.

in "playing off" the Secretary of the In- him will be on the square straight issue of were to "Stand aside," and its next will be which he was personally inclined, and settled. It should be affirmed that an something else. When the prisoners made allers bin in front o' they'uns, an probably ter me. Den't nobody show the break that boy with the big eyes and allers will be, until they'uns is done killed fur a long time, an' don't yarn galluses didn't try to hit 'em, and I

veterans and the G.A.R. Committee asked He recalls Dickens's famous character gress just as we go to press—Tuesday noon | Spenlow, the hard-hearted, merciless usure who always represented himself as being most tender and compassionate, and want It begins with a brief tribute to the late ing to grant his victims every concession Vice-President, but quickly passes to conbut that his partner, Jorkins, was absolutegratulations to the country upon its bound- ly inexorable, and destitute of bowels of mercy. As a matter of fact the rules and regulations of the Pension Bureau are the those of 20 years ago, advocates the Gold creation of the Commissioner, as are the Standard, devotes several columns to a rules and regulations of all the other Bureaus, and their submission to and ap and gives a column to Cuba. He declares proval by the Secretary of the Interior are

The explanation will also throw light on that portion of the Secretary of the Interior's report which relates to pensions. This report is almost necessarily merely a condensation and resume of the reports face the vicissitudes which too often attend of the various Commissioners in the Department. The present Secretary of the Union troops in the distance.

"O," answered Si, indifferently, "I s'pose Interior, an estimable gentleman, of considerable ability, has been comparatively recently transferred to that position from the Legation to Russia. The presumption their energies." After April 11, 1900, we seems just that he had as little interest in shall know who constitute the citizens of and knowledge of the workings of the penand knowledge of the workings of the pension system as he had of those of the Patent Office, the Indian Bureau, or the Geological Survey. How much time or opportunity for their study he has had since can be imposited for the property of the pension of the patent of the pension of the pensio Cuba, and shall proceed to conduct muniimagined from the time required of members On the 30th of June, 1899, the pension roll of the Cabinet in their duties as Constitugreat questions of policy which are at the

front requiring settlement.

At the close of the fiscal year there were 991,519 pensioners, a decrease of 2.195 during the year. The average annual value of all pensions will increase the pension roll during the current fiscal year. The Secretary concurs in the recommendations for legislation providing that no pension be granted to commence prior to the date of filing the claim, and for an early revision and codification of the pension laws, as the numerous amendatory laws and decisions have made the whole system a labyrinth of laws and legal opinions. Secretary Hitch-cock urges legislation to definitely construe the act of June 27, 1890, relating to widows pensions. Regarding this, he says:

"In order to more exactly define the words 'means of support.' I approve the recommendation of the Commissioner of Pensions that the act of June 27,1890, be so amended that a pensionable status be granted to widows whose income, independent of the proceeds of their daily labor, s not in excess of \$250 per annum."

The report also recommends legislative authority for biennial examinations of pensioners; legislation prohibiting the payment of "any compensation whatever to cension attorneys and agents for any service in connection with any claim or proceeding under the pension laws, except such as may, within certain limits fixed by Congresa, be allowed by the Commissioner of Pensions, and paid from the pension dressed to pension agencies.

The amazing part of this is that relating to the limit on widows' incomes. Mr. Evans has heretafore lamented that he recommends that, in order to make the practice at all times uniform and to do justice to the dependent widow, the amount of income allowed independent of the proceeds of her daily labor should be not less than \$250 per annum, and he urges that the partmental rulings," he generally phrased. partmental rulings," he generally phrased. blo it. We have pointed out that, as stated above. eds of formulated by the Commissioner of Pen-

> the matter be referred to Congress for action. This is astonishing in view of the fact that there is absolutely nothing in the law making a limitation, and each Commissioner has established such limitation as suited him. Commissioner Raum decided that if a widow had an income from property not exceeding \$500 a year, she came within the provisions of the law, and Commissioner Lochren cut this down to \$96, at which point Evans has continued it. This is the first hint that Congress has anything to do with the matter, and is clearly an adoption of Evans's favorite plan of creating mountainous obstacles in the way of doing anything that he does not want to do.

> It is difficult to understand just what the Secretary expects to accomplish by his proposed exceedingly expensive biennial examination of pensioners. The main effect of this would be to provide a steady income as long as the pensioners live to the doctors composing the Boards of Examining Surgeons. There can be no economy in it. The aged men and women now or

> the pension rolls are not going to get any younger; they are not going to recover from the rheumatism, heart disease, deafness, impaired vision, etc., for which they are now pensioned. If the examinations would have the object of securing an in crease of ratings on account of the progress. of disablement it would be a humane and generous proposition. But such a thing is not contemplated.

The remaining recommendations are trivial, and do not reach the heart of the great burning discontent of the veterans and their widows with the administration of the Pension Bureau.

There is no suggestion as to the ending of the present stagnation in the allowance of claims, of the furtherance of justice to the thousands of long-waiting men and women. who are heartsick over the delay to give them their plain rights, and the meager stipends they earned with their dearest blood. There is no promise of any ending or even amelioration of the eternal circumlocution and aggravating hair-splitting technicalities to stave off the allowance of claims until the claimants are worried into their graves, and the payments to them 'saved" to the Treasury. Even the recomnendation as to the limit to the widows' pension is a mockery. What does it matter what the limit may be, if the Commissioner is determined not to allow the pension, and will resort to some other subterfuge to defeat

We had no expectation of much comfor

THE attack on Brigham H. Roberts



The East Tennesseeans Execute Vengeance on Their Persecutors-Advancing the Line of W rks.

"What air yo'uns gwine ter do with the air skunks arter we'uns git 'em back ter camp?" asked Basil Peters of Si, pointing with his thumb over his shoulder to Capt. Washington Stembell and Lieut. Elijah Willoughby, C. S. A., as the squad came out into the plain road about sunrise, and saw

they'll be sent to the rear with the other prisoners, and then sent to Camp Morton, at Injianapolis, or Camp Chase, at Colum-bus, or Camp Douglas, at Chicago, or Alton, or some o' them places. We've got mints and rafts o' them everywhere in the

an' bime-by some o' they'uns' friends up North'll fix hit ter git they'uns out, an' back they'uns 'll come, ter be wusser'n ever I've done heered tell all about them prisons tional advisers of the President in the great questions of policy which are at the great questions of policy which are at the front requiring settlement.

The paragraph relating to pensions appears in the abstract given out to the press as follows:

The done heered tell all about them prisons. They don't hold them as want ter git back no more'n a corn-crib, 'Il hold feathers. Recolleck John Morgan, that yo'uns had sich a time a-gittin', and then let git away, ter harry we'uns agin. Why, Mister, them scoundrels 've done killed more'n a dozen Union men, ter my own knowledge. Why, Mister, Wash Stembell and 'Lije Willowship done harry away newsin. Ralph loughby done hung my own cousin, Ralph Peters, afore my own eyes. They'uns burnt Brice Wolf's daddy's barn a-buntin fur him, and tied his old daddy, who's a thumbs, ter make him tell whar Brie wuz, an 'Lije Willoughby done slapped his pore ole mother alongside o' the head with his sword, bekase she wuz cryin' and beggin' for her husband's life. Tel me, Mister, yo'uns ain't gwine ter do nothin more ter they'uns than ter pen 'em up ar fatten they'uns till they git ready ter rur

"Don't quite seem the square deal," said Shorty sympathetically. "Men that'd do that to any o' my kin I'd kill, if I was hung

for it the next minute."

"No doubt they ought to be punished."
said Si determinedly. "But that ain't none
o' our business. Our dooty 's to take 'em back and turn 'em over to the provost-guard. Then you kin prefer charges agin 'em, and have 'em regularly tried."
"Try they'uns," said Basil Peters, with deep scorn. "As much sense in tryin' a rattlesnake, or a catamount. They'uns don't desays no triel, no more," a hungry

don't desarve no trial, no more'n a hungry wolf. They'uns hain't bin givin' no tria ter folks who only wanted ter live at home honest an' peaceable; under the Government o' their fathers. They've hung them up like sheep-killin' dogs."

While this conversation was going on Basil Peters and Brice Wolf were marching money, as now provided with respect to a little in advance, with Si and Shorty, claims for pension;" and for the delivery while the two prisoners were under the guard of the vigilant Tennessecans a little n the rear.

Si and Shorty became occupied in trying o distinguish the divisions and corps out in front, so as to make their way to their

wn certainly and quickly.

They passed up over a hog-back, and halted the squad there, while Si and Shorty went forward a little ways to another rise. rom which they thought they could better. They were alarmed by a sudden outburst of firing from the squad, and ran back to the hog-back to see what it meant. They found their own boys standing with to the left a little ways lay Capt. Washing-ton Stembell and Lieut. Elijah Willoughby

n the wet grass, dving. "What does this mean?" Si asked angrily

"Mister, them pizen scoundrels made er break, an tried ter git away, an' we had ter shoot 'em ter stop 'em," answered Peters. ooking squarely in Si's angry eyes. see, Mister, they'uns had got 'bout 10 rod afore we fetched 'em. Next jump they uns'd bin in that timber thar, an got clear off. I wuzzent lookin' at the time, an' the other boys fired fust, but they'uns wuz kind flustrated, an didn't take good aim. rhirled around an drawed a bead on Wash Stembell jist as he wuz makin' the last jump for the timber, an' fetched him. Brice brun flown Lije Willoughby at the same time."
"Yaas, Mister," drawled Brice Wolf lazily and softly, as he pushed back his long hair and confronted Si's searching look with steadfast calmness, "hit waz mouty lucky that we got they 'uns jist as we'uns did. The next skip they'uns'd a-bin in that that tall timber, whar we'd ever found 'em agin.

Sorely perplexed, and exceedingly irri-tated, Si looked from one to the other, only to meet in their eyes the calm expression of plain truth. "I wonder if they're akehelly killed?" S

asked, with a gleam of hope, and turning look at the men.
"Mister, you kin jist bet your last dollar they'ms air dead—mouty dead—too dead to skin," answered Peters in his soft, lazy drawl. "I kotched Wash Stembell jist above the butt o' his right ear. He quit-right then and thar."

"An' I got 'Lije Willoughby jist behind his eye," drawled Brice Wolf. "He never-

knowed what hurt him, the hound."
Si went over and examined the bodies and found it just as they had said. had planted their bullets precisely where they had aimed.

He examined their pockets, and took out some trinkets and papers, and a couple old-fashioned bull's-eye silver watches. "That's ole Jeb Stallins's watch," said Peters, when Si came back with them in his hand, "that Wash Stembell done tuck away when he was a-huntin' fur young Jeb to conscript him. Hit done broke ole Jeb's heart ter lose hit. He thought a'most as He thought a'most as much of hit as he done of his son."

"And t'other's Wat Brown's," said Brice

what he done tuck offen him arter he shot him, down thar by Lickskillet. "Bloody and deceitful men shall not live out half their days," remarked Monty Scruggs, recalling his Sunday school les-

"Well, I'll turn these over to the Captain, along with the papers," said Si, "when I make my report. I can't do nothin' more than report what's bin done, and let the Colonel do what he pleases. Forward! March! Si strode on a little ahead of the rest, re

lecting gloomily on what had happened. "Say, that was an awnu suck pan onem fellers," burbled little Pete Skidmore mem fellers," burbled of Shorty, ahead of as he trotted alongside of Shorty, ahead o the squad, and a little behind Si. ut none o' the rest o' the boys did. knowed it was a coming from the time we come out on the level there. You see that there big lunking boy back there, with the eyes like a cow's, and yarn suspenders that hitch the seat of his pants up on the back of is neck-he's a 42d cousin o' that rebel Captain. He wasn't as sour on them prisoners, of course, as that big feller and that long-legged one that's been with you and Si—them that they call Baz and Brice. Well, you know, when we got separated going around that big mudhole back there, and crossing the crick, I happened to be with Baz and Brice, and overheard them to the veterans from the Secretary's report, and are not disappointed. talking to one another. They didn't pay no attention to me, because they seemed to think that I was so little I couldn't hear well. They fixed it up that the prisoners should be allowed to drop to the rear, in charge of them four boys, and that feller general ideas as to details.

This explanation is necessary to understand Mr. Evans's constant tergiversation in "playing off" the Secretary of the In-The House's first words to Mr. Roberts terior as preventing his doing things to polygamy, and so have that definitely though they pretended to be thinking of

But Baz and Brice whirled around like flashes and put their guns to their faces. But it seems to me that they waited a whole minute before they shot. Then their guns cracked together and beth the reliable for minute before they shot. Then their guns cracked together, and both the rebels drop-

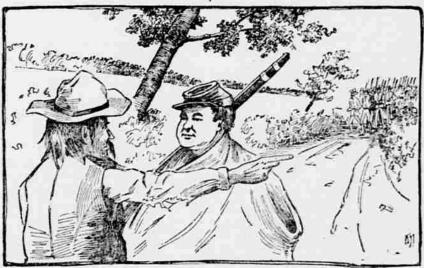
your lines so tight shint that a can-opener your lines so tight shint that a can-opener wouldn't pry 'em open. If you don't you confidence and interest of the members of may ruin me and Si. Them fellers got just what they deserved, or rather less'n Tennesseeans did not understand what just what they deserved, or rather less'n Tennesseeans did not understand what Everything became deathly still along they deserved, but there's lois o' queer folks "foreign or domestic" meant, but they knew in this world, and most o' them are around headquarters. Me and Si con't want no the other words alluded to role's. When cleared away, and the moon came out the Adjutant appropriate that they was belliarly the cleared away, and the moon came out instantly.

and men too, of such rank and importance. He thought of the severe cross-examination that Capt. McGillicuddy would subject him leisurely forward, and began studying our to, of his severe looks at his answers, and his finally taking him up to the Colonel, glasses to their eyes, and to point out to each other the ordeal would be still worse, and end he could not tell how. Without say- Union lines.

n't believe the other fellers with him did. do hit. Mister, you'll let us jine, won't

"Yes," answered Si, "in everything but

The mention of a court-martial sobered mustered in, they were received wit cheers. "Hist, and the members of the company welcomed



WHAT AIR YOUNS GWINE TO DO WITH THEM AIR SKUNKS?

ing a word, and only an occasional glance backward to see that his squad was following and well-closed up, he threaded his way brough the teams, took cut-offs to shorter the distance, and find better marching, and finally, in the middle of the afternoon, came up to the brigade lying in line-of-battle on a ow hill in front of Pine Mountain.

He was astonished at the giad cheers which welcomed his appearance. Co. Q threw their hats in the air and yelled with such vehemence that the rebels in the renches across the little hollow thought : charge was coming, and rose up and opened a hot fire.

Everybody, Si and his squad included. jumped for cover, and responded with his musket. After the flurry died down to occasional shots Capt. McGillieuddy came to Si with beaming face, and said

"Sergeant, I'm glad to see you. I've bee worrying frightfully about you. I was sure that you had run into the rebels and been captured. They hung around us etty close for a long time last night, and e turned to the right to get further away con them, and in the mud and the rain. ad the rush, nobody seems to have thought

of leaving a man at the forks of the road to give you directions. Eve been blaming myself terribly for my neglect."

Sherman a their staff.

"Glory b "Why, Cap." said Si, a great load lifted from his mind, "I've bin abusin' my own dumbness for takin' the wrong road. I've told myself a thousand times that I was their guns at a feady, while those of the stupider than an ox for not follerin' a plain trail, such as you left, but I come to a place where the ground was hard, and the rain had washed out the tracks, and I took the road I thought you'd gone on, and run smack into the rebels. Things looked mighty sick for a little while, but we finally the rebel works. "I done tole 'em ance, or improvement assessments or street than he and his family can eat. Nobody has to pay any rent or taxes, or life insur-mighty sick for a little while, but we finally that there has a representation of the rebel works. "I done tole 'em ance, or improvement assessments or street than he and his family can eat. Nobody has to pay any rent or taxes, or life insur-mighty sick for a little while, but we finally than he and his family can eat. mighty sick for a little while, but we finally all got away, and brung a rebel Captain and

Lieutenant with us. "Good! Good!" said the Captain, exultingly. "I can trust you to get out of

"Shorty done the most." Si reminded him. "Yes; Shorty's a daisy too. You're a great pair. I don't believe you have your equals. You brought off all your boys "All of 'em," responded Si proudly. There they are. You kin see "Where are your prisoners?"

Si's face fell at once "Why, Cap," he said regretfully, TII have to confess that I was too careless about them. We brung 'em off all right, with these 10 Union men who wanted to git away from the rebels. After we'd got away he Tennesseeans wanted to kill 'em, beause they wuz specially bad men, who'd

ways lookin' for it, leavin' the pris- "Hit's in more danger 'n our'n. in charge of the Tennesseeans. idn't even do as I should have done, put git hit too. in charge of our own boys. It was them in charge of our own boys. It was awful careless, I know, but I was anxious to git back to the regiment. The prisoners made a break, and they wuz shot before they'd run far. I'm awful sorry. Here they orders are," said the Orderly-Sertiey'd run far. I'm awful sorry. y'd run far. I'm awful sorry. Here their papers and things. I'll go right to the Colonel with you, and tell him the whole story, so's you needn't have any esponsibility for it. It was all my fault." "Killed them, did they?" said the Captain, aking the things." "Deader'n mackerel," said Shorty, speak-

"Well," said the Captain nonchalantly, "such accidents will happen in the best regulated families. Don't think any more about it. I'd much rather have you back safe and sound than a hundred dead rebels. So long as the rebels didn't get away and were killed running, the rest don't matter. We have other more important matters on hand than discussing fine points of guard duty. You'd better take those other men back to the provost-guard. They "I put trailing the brush behind.

hem with the other deserters who have

"Cap'n," said Basil Peters, who had come up close enough to overhear this last re-mark, "that's jist what I want ter speak ter you about. We'uns don't want ter go ack thar, but stay right hyar with yo'ur We hain't no desarters. We'uns never be-longed ter no rebel army, no more'n a man pelengs ter a jail whar he's locked up. We'uns is Union plum through, an hain' no truck nor dicker with rebels, except ter fight they'uns. We'uns never belonged fer the rebel army, but only stayed thar bekase we'uns had ter. We'uns got away the fust chance, and now we'uns want ter fight fer the Union. We'uns 've talked hit over amongst ourselves, an' concluded that we'uns'd ruther line your company nor anybody else's. You've got a good favor, an we'uns 've done tuck ter you.

"Thank you for the compliment, gentle men," said Capt. McGillicuddy. "We need more men in the company, especially such ne, able-bodied men as you appear to be. But it's pretty dangerous for you to join to see that they were all safely under cover with me. If the rebels should capture you and cautiously worked a little opening in with me. If the rebess snown they'd shoot you down like dogs."
"We'uns 'll look out for that," said Peters.
"We'uns 've kalkilated all that 'ere."
"That " continued the Captain, "the com

mand that you've come from is probably right out there in front of us. You'll run a great deal more danger of being recognized han if you went back and enlisted in an army in another part of the country."
"No." answered Peters, doggedly. "We-

'uns want ter stay right hyah. That thar rijimint in froat is Gilmartin's, the one that they had we'uns in. Hit's got more mean lines. nen in hit than ary other in the Southern onfedrisy, an' hit's the one we want to fout. Contents, an increase the chance ter kill out every officer in hit. We can't git so good a chance nowhar else. We'uns know this rijimint—the 200th Injianny. We'uns 've hereat them over that talk lots about hit. Hit's everything's quieted down. Leave him terme. Don't nobody shoot around here fur a long time, an' don't nobody shoot

"Have you any idee who them are?" S asked Basii Peters,
"From this distance it looks like ole Joe Johnston hisself, and a lot o' his big-bugs That big, fat man looks like ole Bishop Polk, who commands the corps they had we'uns in," answered Peters. "Wish ter the Lord Almighty I had a gun as big as a log, that'd shoot that fur, an' blow the sancti monious ole varmint to damation, whar he pelongs. The devil's finger's 've bin itchin

fur him this many a day."

As he spoke the group turned and began oving back toward the protection of the orks from which they had emerged. Some walked very fast, some actually ran, but the large, fleshy man turned with delibera-tion, and walked slowly.

A rifled cannon to the left and rear of Co.

Cracked sharply, and a shell went screeching over the little valley. It burst so near he large, fleshy man that he disappeared n its smoke, and when this raised he was seen lying on the ground. A squad of mer jumped over the works, picked him up and

carried him back.

A cheer ran along our lines, and Si and Shorty looking in the direction of the battery which had fired the well-aimed shot, saw sitting on their horses near it, Gens. herman and Thomas, with a portion of "Glory to God!" shouted Basil Peters

springing up on the bank, and swinging his hat. "Ole Parson Polk is gone. One of our inimies is struck down by the hand o' the Lord, which aimed that cannon. Le the good work go on, until the last one o Jeff Davis's follorers is sent ter jine him." fust thing this mornin', when they missed you, that thar's whar yo' wuz. Take that

for your nigger gizzard.'
With that the speaker With that the speaker fired, and Peters jumped down behind the bank and seized his gun."
"Yes, Wils Branham," he shouted back.

"I'm hyah, an' gwine ter stay. I'm at last whar I belong. You can't shoot no better 'n ye' ever could, which wuz none. Take that for your black rebel heart." His shot was evidently more effective than his opponent's, for it was followed by a groan, at which Co. Q cheered.

"I got in even a better shot on Wash Stembe'l this mornin," Peters shouted. "And Brice Wolf laid out 'Lije Willoughby. They're both grub for buzzards to-day They won't go round conscriptin nobody "You infernal deserters," roared the voice

which Si and Shorty recognized as that of the Colonel of the regiment, "I'm coming our persecutin their people, and killin' some over there for you presently, and then Fl "Look out fur your own skelp, Cunne nding the regiment, and went ahead a Bill Gilmartin," Peters should defiantly

> s comin' arter your n mouty soon, an' we'll The mortal bitterness of the hatred be

> geant, coming up from the rear," that the front rank shall go back there a little ways where they'll find some cuts of logs, which the pioneers have sawed up. Each i over the works. Then the rear rank'll go back and each man get a cedar bush which he'll find there, with a sharpened point.
> The front rank will lie down snug behind their logs and roll them across to the edge of that abatis. The rear rank will crawl dong behind, and when the line of logs is formed they will each stick his cedar bush down before the log of his front rank man.

Inderstand, all of you?"
"Great scheme, that," said Si, approv "Great scheme, that," said Si, approv-ingly, as he rolled his section of a log over the works in front, with Monty Scruggs Monty, and keep keerfully in line behind this back-log as I push it forrard, and keep our head down, and you'll be safe. This is Birnam wood going

inane over agian. remarked emembering his Macbeth. The rebels opened a sharp fire as the logs began rolling forward, but enough men had seen left in the works to reply sufficiently to disturb their aim, and the line rolled orward steadily with few casualties.

At the edge of the abatis the sections of

og were quickly arranged so as to afford a continuous protection, and the cedar brush thrust down in front screened the men behind from the rebel sharpshooters.
"Well," said Shorty, contemplating the
result with satisfaction, "the longer a man ives the more, by Jehosephat, he finds that thought that out had a head as big as a punkin, and plum full o' brains. I'd like to exchange tin-types with him."

"Now," said Si, as he settled himself down behind his log, scanned his squad the cedar branches to see and shoot through "I'd like to see any butternut scalawag so much as stick a finger up over there. I kin even pare his nails for him at thi

As soon as the line settled down, and the firing had died away, the Tennesseeans, led by Basil Peters, resumed their taunting of their late companions. The bitterest insults and foulest reproaches that tongue That thar could frame were hurled back and forth across the narrow space between the two

> "Lord send that ole Cunnel Bill Gilmartin will only stick his evil poll up," Basil Peters

do hit. Mister, you'll let us jine, won't you?"

"You think that we can trust them, don't you, Sergeant?" Capt. McGillicuddy asked Si in an aside.

"You aside."

"You aside."

"You asked."

"You aside."

"Well, he's right over that in front o d. Say, that Baz feller's deep as a well."
"Pete, are you sure that none o' the rest o'
e boys've got onto that?" Shorty asked
rnestly.
"Sure," answered Pete. "Sandy was off
"The Colonel gave his consent, the Adam white hat with a silver star and a feather. me," continued Peters. "You kin tell his earnestly.

"Sure," answered Pete. "Sandy was off on the other side and didn't have a chance jutant provided enlistment blanks, which each man signed with his "mark," and was begin projekin with that hat. He'll shove hit up a litle ways and then jerk hit back. on the other side and didn't have a chance to see or hear. I'm going to teil him."

"Not on your life you mustn't." Shorty said with a solemn earnestness that startled the boy. "Don't you dare, till I tell you, breathe a word of this to nobody. Keep your lips so tight shut that a can-opener foreign or domestic." that increased the wouldn't you don't you

"Hist, thar comes the white hat." said "You can betcher life I won't cheep," he said earnestly.

Si strode on, getting gloomier every minute over the explanation that he would have to make as to his derelictions as rearguard, and the unexplainable carelessness which allowed the killing of his prisoners, and men too, of such rank and importance.

He thought of the severage assessmentation. Peters in a thrilling whisper. crown was soon visible, and then the

"He's studyin' whether he kin send Bill Tubbs with a squad down that path thar on a rush ter git me," whispered Peters, with his eyes fixed along his sights. "He'll raise a little higher vit, an' I'll fetch him right in that evil eye o' his'un. I've wanted ter knock hit out a thousand times."

The hat raised a half-inch higher, and Peters' vitte.

Peters's rifle cracked wickedly in the night air. "The Cunnel's hit! Look out fur the Cunnel thar," cried voices on the other side, and cheers went up from ours. (To be continued.)

A "PATERNAL" GOVERNOR,

Our genial friend, "Dick" Leary, Commander, U. S. N., Governor of Guam, etc., sems to have quickly gotten the air of the Orient up his nostrils, and in spite of his fervent Americanism become a genuine Haroun Alraschid, with all the Arabian Nights trimmings.

He finds his subjects are not nearly up to be plane of civilization that he desires in his bailiwick, and he, like many other rulers, in all ages and lands, has started in to boost them up by means of decrees, which he calls "orders." These have a very humorous tinge, especially to the sociologist and political economist.

In the first place, the Guamians are des perately lazy. They don't do anything-not even lie around under the shade of a cocoanut tree and talk politics. There is no eason why they should do anything. The history of our race is that our forefathers had to hustle around for meat to keep from starving and for habitations and clothing to keep from freezing, and so the habit of work was formed, which still clings to most of us. But the Guam fellow has no such a spur. He can pick his breakfast off a banana tree, which grows spontaneously and affords him all the shelter that he desires. Neither he nor his wife need any clothes, except for ornament, and they are neither of them vain. A few feathers droppel by wild fowls, and some strips of tara back supply their modest tastes as to wardrobe. They have no money, don't want any, and would not know what to do with it if they had it. Nobody wants to buy any bananas, because his own tree raises more car fare, or lodge dues. If a man don't like the banana tree he is living under-if he thinks it is malarious, or unfashionable, or troubled with sewer gas, and is out of repair. he simply walks around till he finds another

and takes up his roost there. All this does not suit the stirring Gov. "Dick" He wants more-much more-United States in the air. He demands that his people shall cease basking in idle happiness and beastly content, but wake up and want things, and begin discontent, strife and effort until they get them. He orders that they shall actually wear clothes, and live in regular houses of some kind, and have money and property. Specifically ne orders that each head of a family shall constantly have on hand around his remises "one sow and 12 chickens," and that they shall use money, bring products to

sell them to the Governor, etc. Here is a gladsome Utopia, such as the Bellamyites, Fourierites, Socialists, Communists, Anarchists, etc., have long dreamed of, and aspired to, which Gov. 'Dick" wants to ruthlessly destroy. Not one of the "wrongs," "evils," "injustices," 'outrages" and "cruelties" over which these freamers constantly wail, exists there, and vet Leary would introduce them. At present every man can pick and eat just as many bananas as every other man, and there is just as many for him to pick. One tree is just about as good as another for shelter, and there are many more trees than families. There is no use agitating the single tax on land, for there is no tax to put on anything, and if there were no man wants to own land, and would not pay any tax for it. There is not a single "burning issue" in the whole island, and yet Gov. "Dick" would introduce them. The moment that he fixes the standard of respectable citizenship at "one sow and 12 chickens,"some fellow will put on airs because he has acquired two hogs and a dozen and a half-chickens, and then the mad race for wealth and distinction will begin and not end until some Guamian has traded for a plug hat and a second-hand bicycle, and all his neighbors are denouncing him as a heartless aristocrat, who is trying to subvert the liberties of his people, and reduce them to the condition of serfs.

Gov. "Dick" means well, but he has not begun the right way. Let him send to Manila for a red silk parasol, and present it to the prettiest girl on the island. Then the next prettiest girl will not give the men about her any peace of mind until she has a red silk parasol. Then let "Dick" give out that the only way to get red silk parasols is by raising chickens and pork and the thing will be done. Women's vanity and jealousy have done more to civilize mankind than all the decrees, edicts and orders ever issued.

One subscriber one guess: two subscribers two guesses for a share of that \$500. See Supple-